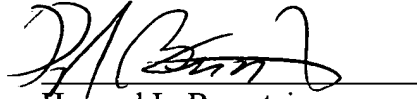


PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT  
New U.S. Application to Hideo KITAMI et al.

**REMARKS**

Entry and consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H. Bernstein", is written over a horizontal line.

Howard L. Bernstein  
Registration No. 25,665

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC  
Telephone: (202) 293-7060  
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: April 14, 2004